

ADOPTION OF REVISIONS TO

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

43 TAC §218.2

SUBCHAPTER B. MOTOR CARRIER REGISTRATION

43 TAC §218.13 AND §218.14

REPEAL OF

43 TAC §218.11

INTRODUCTION. The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (department) adopts revisions to 43 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 218, Motor Carriers. Specifically, the department adopts amendments to Subchapter A, General Provisions, §218.2; amendments to Subchapter B, Motor Carrier Registration, §218.13 and §218.14, and the repeal of §218.11. These revisions are necessary to aid the regulated community's understanding of the state's expectations for maintenance of a valid United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) number; to remove provisions that are unnecessarily repetitive of statute and cross-references to those provisions; and to conform the rules to the department's current procedures with respect to social security numbers as an application requirement for sole proprietors. The department adopts amendments to §§218.2, 218.13 and 218.14 and adopts the repeal of §218.11 without changes to the proposed text as published in the June 26, 2026, issue of the *Texas Register* (51 TexReg 4156). The text of the rules will not be republished.

REASONED JUSTIFICATION. An adopted amendment to §218.2 updates the definition of "USDOT number" to include a reference to the related statutory provision, Texas Transportation Code, §643.064, for clarity and ease of reference. This change is necessary because the department adopts the repeal of §218.11, which essentially restates Transportation Code, §643.051 and §643.064. The adopted amendments to the

1 definition of “USDOT number” ensure that in the absence of §218.11, a reader will still be able to identify
2 and understand the statutory requirement under Transportation Code, §643.064 for commercial motor
3 carriers in Texas to have an active USDOT number. Citing the related statutory provision within the rule
4 aids in public understanding and provides a useful reference to the underlying law without unnecessarily
5 repeating statutory language.

6 An adopted repeal of §218.11 streamlines the department’s rules by eliminating provisions that
7 are identical to statutory language. The language in §218.11(a) and (b) is an unnecessary restatement of
8 Transportation Code, §643.051 and §643.064. Relevant language from Transportation Code, §643.064,
9 which has previously been in §218.11(c), is incorporated with these adopted amendments into §218.13.
10 In addition, the adopted definition of “USDOT number” in §218.2 cites to Transportation Code, §643.064
11 for clarity and ease of reference, as discussed above.

12 Adopted amendments to §218.13(a)(1) clarify the department’s expectations for compliance
13 related to the USDOT number, incorporating and elaborating on language that was previously in repealed
14 §218.11(c) regarding how the department defines a “valid” USDOT number. To be considered “valid,” the
15 USDOT number must be active and be the same as the USDOT number used in the carrier’s application,
16 as long as the carrier is operating under intrastate authority granted by the department. The adopted
17 amendment informs carriers of the requirement to maintain their USDOT number and thereby aids in
18 compliance.

19 In addition, recent Texas Attorney General Opinion No. KP-0516 highlighted the strict mandate in
20 place for a licensing authority such as the department to collect social security numbers (SSN) from an
21 applicant for an individual occupational license under Texas Family Code, §231.302(c)(1), which includes
22 a sole proprietor motor carrier who applies for a certificate of registration for intrastate operating

1 authority. Accordingly, the department adopts an amendment to §218.13(a)(3)(B) to clarify that a sole
2 proprietor applying for motor carrier registration must provide an SSN in the application. While this has
3 consistently been department practice, the wording of §218.13(a)(3)(B) could have been read to mean
4 that a sole proprietor could provide an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number rather than an SSN. In
5 contrast, the adopted amendment states plainly that providing an SSN is the only option available for a
6 sole proprietor applying for motor carrier registration in Texas.

7 The adopted amendments to §218.14(c) remove cross-references to §218.11, which is being
8 repealed. The adopted amendments replace those cross-references with citations to Transportation
9 Code, §643.051, which requires commercial motor carriers to register with the department, and to
10 Transportation Code, §643.054(a), which give the department the authority to issue motor carrier
11 registration in Texas. These amendments clarify the rule and prevent any confusion following the repeal
12 of §218.11.

13 **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS.**

14 No comments were received on the proposed amendments.

16 **SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

17 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (department) adopts the
18 amendment of §218.2 under Transportation Code, §643.003, which authorizes the department to adopt
19 rules to administer Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §643.051, which states that
20 a motor carrier may not operate a commercial motor vehicle, as defined by Transportation Code,
21 §548.001, on a road or highway in Texas, and may not operate a vehicle, regardless of size, to transport
22 household goods for compensation on a road or highway in Texas unless the motor carrier registers with

1 the department under Subchapter B of Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code,
2 §643.064, which provides that a carrier required to register with the department under Subchapter B of
3 Transportation Code, Chapter 643, must maintain an authorized identification number issued to the
4 motor carrier by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, its successor, or another person
5 authorized to issue the number; and Transportation Code, §1002.001, which authorizes the board to
6 adopt rules that are necessary and appropriate to implement the powers and the duties of the
7 department.

8 **CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE.** The adopted amendment would implement Transportation Code,
9 Chapters 643 and 1002.

10
11 Text.

12 §218.2. Definitions.

13 (a) The definitions contained in Transportation Code, Chapter 643 apply to this chapter. In the
14 event of a conflict with this chapter, the definitions contained in Transportation Code, Chapter 643
15 control; however, the definition of the word "director" in this section controls over the definition in
16 Transportation Code, Chapter 643.

17 (b) The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following
18 meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

19 (1) Advertisement--An oral, written, graphic, or pictorial statement or representation
20 made in the course of soliciting intrastate household goods transportation services, including, without
21 limitation, a statement or representation made in a newspaper, magazine, or other publication, or
22 contained in a notice, sign, poster, display, circular, pamphlet, or letter, or on radio, the Internet, or via

1 an online service, or on television. The term does not include direct communication between a
2 household goods carrier or carrier's representative and a prospective shipper, and does not include the
3 following:

4 (A) promotional items of nominal value such as ball caps, tee shirts, and pens;

5 (B) business cards;

6 (C) listings not paid for by the household goods carrier or its household goods
7 carrier's agent; and

8 (D) listings of a household goods carrier's business name or assumed name as it
9 appears on the motor carrier certificate of registration, and the household goods carrier's address, and
10 contact information in a directory or similar publication.

11 (2) Approved association--A group of household goods carriers, its agents, or both, that
12 has an approved collective ratemaking agreement on file with the department under §218.64 of this
13 title (relating to Rates).

14 (3) Binding proposal--A written offer stating the exact price for the transportation of
15 specified household goods and any related services.

16 (4) Board--Board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

17 (5) Certificate of insurance--A certificate prescribed by and filed with the department in
18 which an insurance carrier or surety company warrants that a motor carrier for whom the certificate is
19 filed has the minimum coverage as required by §218.16 of this title (relating to Insurance
20 Requirements).

21 (6) Certificate of registration--A certificate issued by the department to a motor carrier
22 and containing a unique number.

1 (7) Certified scale--Any scale designed for weighing motor vehicles, including trailers or
2 semitrailers not attached to a tractor, and certified by an authorized scale inspection and licensing
3 authority. A certified scale may also be a platform-type or warehouse-type scale properly inspected and
4 certified.

5 (8) Commercial motor vehicle--As defined in Transportation Code, §548.001. The
6 definition for commercial motor vehicle does not include:

7 (A) a farm vehicle with a gross weight, registered weight, or gross weight rating
8 of less than 48,000 pounds;

9 (B) a cotton vehicle registered under Transportation Code, §504.505;

10 (C) a vehicle registered with the Railroad Commission under Natural Resources
11 Code, §113.131 and §116.072;

12 (D) a vehicle operated by a governmental entity;

13 (E) a motor vehicle exempt from registration by the Unified Carrier Registration
14 Act of 2005; and

15 (F) a tow truck, as defined by Occupations Code, §2308.002.

16 (9) Conspicuous--Written in a size, color, and contrast so as to be readily noticed and
17 understood.

18 (10) Conversion--A change in an entity's organization that is implemented with a
19 Certificate of Conversion issued by the Texas Secretary of State under Business Organizations Code,
20 §10.154.

21 (11) Director--The director of the department's Motor Carrier Division, whom the
22 executive director of the department designated as the director under Transportation Code,

1 §643.001(2).

2 (12) Estimate--An informal oral calculation of the approximate price of transporting
3 household goods.

4 (13) Farmer--A person who operates a farm or is directly involved in cultivating land,
5 crops, or livestock that are owned by or are under the direct control of that person.

6 (14) Farm vehicle--A commercial motor vehicle that is:

7 (A) controlled and operated by a farmer to transport either:

8 (i) agricultural products; or

9 (ii) farm machinery, farm supplies, or both, to and from a farm;

10 (B) not being used in the operation of a for-hire motor carrier;

11 (C) not carrying hazardous materials of a type or quantity that requires the
12 commercial motor vehicle to be placarded in accordance with 49 C.F.R. §177.823; and

13 (D) being used within 150 air-miles of the farmer's farm.

14 (15) FMCSA--Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

15 (16) For-hire motor carrier--A motor carrier that provides transportation of persons or
16 cargo for compensation in one or more motor vehicles.

17 (17) Foreign commercial motor vehicle--As defined in Transportation Code, §648.001.

18 (18) Gross weight rating--The maximum loaded weight of any combination of truck,
19 tractor, and trailer equipment as specified by the manufacturer of the equipment. If the manufacturer's
20 rating is unknown, the gross weight rating is the greater of:

21 (A) the actual weight of the equipment and its lading; or

22 (B) the maximum lawful weight of the equipment and its lading.

1 (19) Household goods agent--A motor carrier who transports household goods on behalf
2 of another motor carrier.

3 (20) Household goods carrier--A motor carrier who transports household goods for
4 compensation, regardless of the size of the vehicle.

5 (21) Inventory--A list of the items in a household goods shipment and the condition of
6 the items.

7 (22) Leasing business--A person that leases vehicles requiring registration under
8 Subchapter B of this chapter to a motor carrier that must be registered.

9 (23) Mediation--A non-adversarial form of alternative dispute resolution in which an
10 impartial person, the mediator, facilitates communication between two parties to promote
11 reconciliation, settlement, or understanding.

12 (24) Motor Carrier or carrier--As defined in Transportation Code, §643.001(6).

13 (25) Motor transportation broker--As defined in Transportation Code, §646.001.

14 (26) Moving services contract--A contract between a household goods carrier and
15 shipper, such as a bill of lading, receipt, order for service, or work order, that sets out the terms of the
16 services to be provided.

17 (27) Multiple user--An individual or business who has a contract with a household goods
18 carrier and who used the carrier's services more than 50 times within the preceding 12 months.

19 (28) Not-to-exceed proposal--A formal written offer stating the maximum price a
20 shipper can be required to pay for the transportation of specified household goods and any related
21 services. The offer may also state the non-binding approximate price. Any offer based on hourly rates
22 must state the maximum number of hours required for the transportation and related services unless

1 there is an acknowledgment from the shipper that the number of hours is not necessary.

2 (29) Principal business address--A single location that serves as a motor carrier's
3 headquarters and where it maintains its operational records or can make them available.

4 (30) Print advertisement--A written, graphic, or pictorial statement or representation
5 made in the course of soliciting intrastate household goods transportation services, including, without
6 limitation, a statement or representation made in or contained in a newspaper, magazine, circular, or
7 other publication. The term does not include direct communication between a household goods carrier
8 or carrier's representative and a prospective shipper, and does not include the following:

9 (A) promotional items of nominal value such as ball caps, tee shirts, and pens;

10 (B) business cards;

11 (C) Internet websites;

12 (D) listings not paid for by the household goods carrier or its household goods
13 carrier's agent; and

14 (E) listings of a household goods carrier's business name or assumed name as it
15 appears on the motor carrier certificate of registration, and the household goods carrier's address, and
16 contact information in a directory or similar publication.

17 (31) Public highway--Any publicly owned and maintained street, road, or highway in this
18 state.

19 (32) Replacement vehicle--A vehicle that takes the place of another vehicle that has
20 been removed from service.

21 (33) Revocation--The withdrawal of registration and privileges by the department or a
22 registration state.

(34) Shipper--The owner of household goods or the owner's representative.

(35) Short-term lease--A lease of 30 days or less.

(36) Substitute vehicle--A vehicle that is leased from a leasing business and that is used as a temporary replacement for a vehicle that has been taken out of service for maintenance, repair, or any other reason causing the temporary unavailability of the permanent vehicle.

(37) Suspension--Temporary removal of privileges granted to a registrant by the department or a registration state.

(38) Unified Carrier Registration System or UCR--A motor vehicle registration system established under 49 U.S.C. §14504a or a successor federal registration program.

(39) USDOT--United States Department of Transportation.

(40) USDOT number-- A unique identification number issued by or under the authority of the FMCSA or its successor and required under Texas Transportation Code §643.064 for specified motor carriers.

SUBCHAPTER B. MOTOR CARRIER REGISTRATION

STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The department adopts amendments to §218.13 and §218.14 under Transportation Code, §643.003, which authorizes the department to adopt rules to administer Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §643.052, which requires a motor carrier to submit to the department an application on a form prescribed by the department to register under Subchapter B of Transportation Code, Chapter 643, as well as the required components of the application, which include information the department by rule determines is necessary for the safe operation of a motor carrier under Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §643.053,

1 which provides additional requirements for an application filed with the department under
2 Transportation Code, §643.052; Transportation Code, §643.054, which authorizes the department to
3 deny an application for registration under certain circumstances, in addition to authorizing the
4 department to adopt simplified procedures for the registration of motor carriers transporting household
5 goods as agents for carriers required to register under Transportation Code, Chapter 643;
6 Transportation Code, §643.056, which requires a motor carrier that is required to register under
7 Subchapter B of Transportation Code, Chapter 643, to supplement the motor carrier's application for
8 registration under certain circumstances; Transportation Code, §643.058, which specifies the
9 requirements for a motor carrier to apply for renewal of registration issued under Subchapter B of
10 Transportation Code, Chapter 643, as well as the authority for the department to deny an application for
11 renewal of registration; Transportation Code, §643.0585, which specifies the requirements for a motor
12 carrier to apply for reregistration after its registration has been revoked, as well as the authority for the
13 department to deny an application for reregistration; Transportation Code, §643.061, which authorizes
14 the department to adopt rules to vary the registration period under Subchapter B of Transportation
15 Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §643.064, which provides that a carrier required to register
16 with the department under Subchapter B of Transportation Code, Chapter 643, must maintain an
17 authorized identification number issued to the motor carrier by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety
18 Administration, its successor, or another person authorized to issue the number; Family Code, §231.302,
19 which compels licensing authorities like the department to collect social security numbers from an
20 individual applicant for a professional license; Transportation Code, §1002.001, which authorizes the
21 board to adopt rules that are necessary and appropriate to implement the powers and the duties of the

department; and Government Code, §2001.004(1), which requires state agencies to adopt rules of practice stating the nature and requirements of all available formal and informal procedures.

CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE. The adopted amendments would implement Transportation Code, Chapters 643 and 1002; Family Code, Chapter 231; and Government Code, Chapter 2001.

Text.

§218.13. Application for Motor Carriers Registration.

(a) Form of original application. An original application for motor carrier registration must be filed electronically in the department's designated motor carrier registration system, must be in the form prescribed by the director and must contain, at a minimum, the following information and documents.

(1) USDOT number. A valid USDOT number issued to the applicant. To be valid, the USDOT number must be active while the carrier is operating on a public highway of this state and must be the same as the USDOT number included in the motor carrier's application for registration.

(2) Applicant information and documents. All applications must include the following information and documents:

(A) The applicant's name, business type (e.g., sole proprietor, corporation, or limited liability company), telephone number, email address, and Secretary of State file number, as applicable. The applicant's name and email address must match the information the applicant provided to FMCSA to obtain the USDOT number that the applicant provided in its application to the department.

(B) An application submitted by an entity, such as a corporation, general partnership, limited liability company, limited liability corporation, limited partnership, or partnership,

1 must include the entity's Texas Comptroller's Taxpayer Number or the entity's Federal Employer
2 Identification Number.

3 (C) A legible and accurate electronic image of each applicable required
4 document:

5 (i) The certificate of filing, certificate of incorporation, or certificate of
6 registration on file with the Texas Secretary of State; and

7 (ii) each assumed name certificate on file with the Secretary of State or
8 county clerk.

9 (3) Information and documents regarding applicant's owners, representatives, and
10 affiliates. All applications must include the following information and documents on the applicant's
11 owners, representatives, and affiliates, as applicable:

12 (A) The contact name, email address, and telephone number of the person
13 submitting the application.

14 (B) The name, social security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification
15 Number (to the extent the natural person is authorized by law to obtain one of these numbers), date of
16 birth, business address, and ownership percentage for each owner, partner, member, or principal if the
17 applicant is not a publicly traded company. Notwithstanding any other provision, if the motor carrier is a
18 sole proprietorship, the owner must indicate the owner's social security number.

19 (C) The name, social security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification
20 Number (to the extent the natural person is authorized by law to obtain one of these numbers), date of
21 birth, and business address for the following if the applicant is owned in full or in part by a legal entity:

1 (i) each officer, director, or trustee authorized to act on behalf of the
2 applicant; and

3 (ii) each manager or representative who has or exercises authority to
4 direct some or all of the applicant's operational policy regarding compliance with applicable laws
5 regarding a motor carrier, excluding sales functions, on behalf of the applicant.

6 (D) The name, employer identification number, ownership percentage, and
7 non-profit or publicly traded status for each legal entity that owns the applicant in full or in part.

8 (E) The name, social security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification
9 Number (to the extent the natural person is authorized by law to obtain one of these numbers), date of
10 birth, and business address for each person who serves or will serve as the applicant's manager,
11 operator, or representative who has or exercises authority to direct some or all of the applicant's
12 operational policy regarding compliance with applicable laws regarding a motor carrier, excluding sales
13 functions.

14 (F) A legible and accurate electronic image of at least one of the following
15 unexpired identity documents for each natural person identified in the application:

16 (i) a driver license issued by a state or territory of the United States. If
17 the driver license was issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, the image must also include the
18 audit number listed on the Texas driver license;

19 (ii) Texas identification card issued by the Texas Department of Public
20 Safety under Transportation Code, Chapter 521, Subchapter E, or an identification certificate issued by a
21 state or territory of the United States;

(iii) license to carry a handgun issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety under Government Code, Chapter 411, Subchapter H;

(iv) United States passport; or

(v) United States military identification.

(4) Principal business address and mailing address. The applicant must provide the applicant's principal business address, which must be a physical address. If the mailing address is different from the principal business address, the applicant must also provide the applicant's mailing address.

(5) Legal agent.

(A) A Texas-domiciled motor carrier must provide the name, telephone number, and address of a legal agent for service of process if the agent is different from the motor carrier.

(B) A motor carrier domiciled outside Texas must provide the name, telephone number, and Texas address of the legal agent for service of process.

(C) A legal agent for service of process shall be a Texas resident, a domestic corporation, or a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in Texas with a Texas physical address, rather than a post office box, for service of process.

(6) Description of vehicles. An application must include a motor carrier equipment report identifying each motor vehicle that requires registration and that the carrier proposes to operate. Each motor vehicle must be identified by its vehicle identification number, make, model year, and type of cargo and by the unit number assigned to the motor vehicle by the motor carrier. Any subsequent registration of vehicles must be made under subsection (e) of this section.

(7) Type of motor carrier operations. An applicant must state if the applicant proposes to transport passengers, household goods, or hazardous materials.

(8) Insurance coverage. An applicant must indicate insurance coverage as required by §218.16 of this title (relating to Insurance Requirements).

(9) Safety certification. Each motor carrier must complete, as part of the application, a certification stating that the motor carrier knows and will conduct operations in accordance with all federal and state safety regulations.

(10) Drug-testing certification. Each motor carrier must certify, as part of the application, that the motor carrier is in compliance with the drug-testing requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 382. If the motor carrier belongs to a consortium, as defined by 49 C.F.R. Part 382, the applicant must provide the names of the persons operating the consortium.

(11) Duration of registration.

(A) An applicant must indicate the duration of the desired registration. Except as provided otherwise in this section, registration may be for seven calendar days, 90 calendar days, one year, or two years. The duration of registration chosen by the applicant will be applied to all vehicles.

(i) Household goods carriers may not obtain seven-day or 90-day certificates of registration.

(ii) Motor carriers that transport passengers in a commercial motor vehicle as defined by Transportation Code, §548.001(1)(B) may not obtain seven-day or 90-day certificates of registration, unless approved by the director.

1 (B) Interstate motor carriers that operate in intrastate commerce and meet the
2 requirements under §218.14(c) of this title (relating to Expiration and Renewal of Commercial Motor
3 Vehicles Registration) are not required to renew a certificate of registration issued under this section.

4 (12) Additional requirements. The following fees, documents, and information must be
5 submitted with the application.

6 (A) An application must be accompanied by an application fee of:

7 (i) \$100 for annual and biennial registrations;

8 (ii) \$25 for 90-day registrations; or

9 (iii) \$5 for seven-day registrations.

10 (B) An application must be accompanied by a vehicle registration fee of:

11 (i) \$10 for each vehicle that the motor carrier proposes to operate
12 under a seven-day, 90-day, or annual registration; or

13 (ii) \$20 for each vehicle that the motor carrier proposes to operate
14 under a biennial registration.

15 (C) An application must be accompanied by proof of insurance or financial
16 responsibility and the insurance filing fee as required by §218.16.

17 (D) An application must include the completed New Applicant Questionnaire
18 (Applicant Questionnaire), which consists of questions and requirements, such as the following:

19 (i) Have you ever had another motor carrier certificate of registration
20 number issued by the department in the three years prior to the date of this application? If your answer
21 is yes, provide the certificate of registration number for the motor carrier(s). In the Applicant
22 Questionnaire, the word "you" means the applicant or any business that is operated, managed, or

1 otherwise controlled by or affiliated with the applicant or a family member, corporate officer, manager,
2 operator, or owner (if the business is not a publicly traded company) of the applicant. In the Applicant
3 Questionnaire, the word "manager" means a person who has or exercises authority to direct some or all
4 of the applicant's operational policy regarding compliance with applicable laws regarding a motor
5 carrier, excluding sales functions.

6 (ii) Have you had a Compliance Review or a New Entrant Audit by the
7 Texas Department of Public Safety that resulted in an Unsatisfactory Safety Rating in the three years
8 prior to the date of your application? If your answer is yes, provide the USDOT number(s) and the
9 certificate of registration number(s) issued by the department.

10 (iii) Are you currently under an Order to Cease from the Texas
11 Department of Public Safety? If your answer is yes, provide the motor carrier's USDOT number(s) and
12 the Carrier Profile Number(s). The Texas Department of Public Safety assigns a Carrier Profile Number
13 (CP#) when they perform a compliance review on a motor carrier's operations to determine whether the
14 motor carrier meets the safety fitness standards.

15 (iv) Are you related to another motor carrier, or have you been related
16 to another motor carrier within the three years prior to the date of your application? The relationship
17 may be through a person (including a family member), corporate officer, or partner who also operates
18 or has operated as a motor carrier in Texas. If your answer is yes, state how you are related and provide
19 the motor carrier's name and the motor carrier's USDOT number, or the certificate of registration
20 number issued by the department for each related motor carrier.

21 (v) Do you currently owe any administrative penalties to the
22 department, regardless of when the final order was issued to assess the administrative penalties? If your

1 answer is yes, provide the following information under which the administrative penalties were
2 assessed:

3 (I) department's notice number(s); and

4 (II) the motor carrier's USDOT number and certificate of
5 registration number issued by the department;

6 (vi) Name and title of person completing the Applicant
7 Questionnaire; and

8 (vii) Is the person completing the Applicant Questionnaire an
9 authorized representative of the applicant? If your answer is yes, please add the person's name, job
10 title, phone number, and address.

11 (E) An applicant must state if the applicant is domiciled in a foreign country.

12 (F) An application must include a certification that the information and
13 documents provided in the application are true and correct and that the applicant complied with the
14 application requirements under Chapter 218 of this title (relating to Motor Carriers) and Transportation
15 Code, Chapter 643.

16 (G) An application must be accompanied by any other information and
17 documents required by the department to evaluate the application under current law, including board
18 rules.

19 (13) Additional requirements for household goods carriers. The following information,
20 documents, and certification must be submitted with all applications by household goods carriers:

21 (A) A copy of the tariff that sets out the maximum charges for transportation of
22 household goods, or a copy of the tariff governing interstate transportation services. If an applicant is

governed by a tariff that its association has already filed with the department under §218.65 of this title (relating to Tariff Registration), the applicant complies with the requirement in this subparagraph by checking the applicable box on the application to identify the association's tariff.

(B) If the motor vehicle is not titled in the name of the household goods carrier, the following lease information and documentation, notwithstanding §218.18(a) of this title (relating to Short-term Lease and Substitute Vehicles):

(i) a copy of a valid lease agreement for each motor vehicle that the household goods carrier will operate; and

(ii) the name of the lessor and their USDOT number for each motor vehicle leased to the household goods carrier under a short-term lease.

(C) A certification that the household goods carrier has procedures that comply with Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 62.063(b)(3), which prohibits certain people who are required to register as a sex offender from providing moving services in the residence of another person without supervision.

(14) Additional requirements for passenger carriers. The following information and documents must be submitted with all applications for motor carriers that transport passengers in a commercial motor vehicle as defined by Transportation Code, §548.001(1)(B):

(A) If the commercial motor vehicle is titled in the name of the motor carrier, a copy of the International Registration Plan registration receipt or a copy of the front and back of the title for each commercial motor vehicle; or

(B) If the commercial motor vehicle is not titled in the name of the motor carrier, the following lease information and documentation, notwithstanding §218.18(a) of this title:

1 (i) A copy of a valid lease agreement for each commercial motor vehicle;

2 and

3 (ii) The name of the lessor and their USDOT number for each

4 commercial motor vehicle leased to the motor carrier under a short-term lease.

5 (b) Conditional acceptance of application. If an application has been conditionally accepted by
6 the director pursuant to Transportation Code, §643.055, the applicant may not operate the following
7 until the department has issued a certificate under Transportation Code, §643.054:

8 (1) a commercial motor vehicle or any other motor vehicle to transport household
9 goods for compensation, or

10 (2) a commercial motor vehicle to transport persons or cargo.

11 (c) Approved application. An applicant meeting the requirements of this section and whose
12 registration is approved shall be issued the following documents:

13 (1) Certificate of registration. The department shall issue a certificate of registration.
14 The certificate of registration must contain the name and address of the motor carrier and a single
15 registration number, regardless of the number of vehicles requiring registration that the carrier
16 operates.

17 (2) Insurance cab card. The department shall issue an insurance cab card listing all
18 vehicles to be operated under the carrier's certificate of registration. The insurance cab card shall be
19 continuously maintained at the motor carrier's principal business address. The insurance cab card must
20 be valid for the same period as the motor carrier's certificate of registration and shall contain
21 information regarding each vehicle registered by the motor carrier.

1 (A) A current copy of the page of the insurance cab card on which the vehicle is
2 shown shall be maintained in each vehicle listed, unless the motor carrier chooses to maintain a legible
3 and accurate image of the insurance cab card on a wireless communication device in the vehicle or
4 chooses to display such information on a wireless communication device by accessing the department's
5 online system from the vehicle. The appropriate information concerning that vehicle shall be highlighted
6 if the motor carrier chooses to maintain a hard copy of the insurance cab card or chooses to display an
7 image of the insurance cab card on a wireless communication device in the vehicle. The insurance cab
8 card or the display of such information on a wireless communications device shall serve as proof of
9 insurance as long as the motor carrier has continuous insurance or financial responsibility on file with
10 the department.

11 (B) On demand by a department investigator or any other authorized
12 government personnel, the driver shall present the highlighted page of the insurance cab card that is
13 maintained in the vehicle or that is displayed on a wireless communication device in the vehicle. If the
14 motor carrier chooses to display the information on a wireless communication device by accessing the
15 department's online system, the driver shall locate the vehicle in the department's online system upon
16 request by the department-certified inspector or other authorized government personnel.

17 (C) The motor carrier shall notify the department in writing if it discontinues use
18 of a registered motor vehicle before the expiration of its insurance cab card.

19 (D) Any erasure or alteration of an insurance cab card that the department
20 printed out for the motor carrier renders it void.

21 (E) If an insurance cab card is lost, stolen, destroyed, or mutilated; if it becomes
22 illegible; or if it otherwise needs to be replaced, the department shall print out a new insurance cab card

1 at the request of the motor carrier. Motor carriers are authorized to print out a copy of a new insurance
2 cab card using the department's online system.

3 (F) The department is not responsible for a motor carrier's inability to access the
4 insurance cab card using the department's online system.

5 (d) Additional and replacement vehicles. A motor carrier required to obtain a certificate of
6 registration under this section shall not operate additional vehicles unless the carrier identifies the
7 vehicles on a form prescribed by the director and pays applicable fees as described in this subsection.

8 (1) Additional vehicles. To add a vehicle, a motor carrier must pay a fee of \$10 for each
9 additional vehicle that the motor carrier proposes to operate under a seven-day, 90-day, or annual
10 registration. To add a vehicle during the first year of a biennial registration, a motor carrier must pay a
11 fee of \$20 for each vehicle. To add a vehicle during the second year of a biennial registration, a motor
12 carrier must pay a fee of \$10 for each vehicle.

13 (2) Replacement vehicles. No fee is required for a vehicle that is replacing a vehicle for
14 which the fee was previously paid. Before the replacement vehicle is put into operation, the motor
15 carrier must notify the department, identify the vehicle being taken out of service, and identify the
16 replacement vehicle on a form prescribed by the department. A motor carrier registered under seven-
17 day registration may not replace vehicles.

18 (e) Supplement to original application. A motor carrier required to register under this section
19 shall electronically file in the department's designated motor carrier registration system a supplemental
20 application under the following circumstances.

21 (1) Change of cargo. A registered motor carrier may not begin transporting household
22 goods or hazardous materials unless the carrier submits a supplemental application to the department

1 and shows the department evidence of insurance or financial responsibility in the amounts specified by
2 §218.16.

3 (2) Change of name. A motor carrier that changes its name shall file a supplemental
4 application for registration no later than the effective date of the change. The motor carrier shall include
5 evidence of insurance or financial responsibility in the new name and in the amounts specified by
6 §218.16. A motor carrier that is a corporation must have its name change approved by the Texas
7 Secretary of State before filing a supplemental application. A motor carrier incorporated outside the
8 state of Texas must complete the name change under the law of its state of incorporation before filing a
9 supplemental application.

10 (3) Change of address or legal agent for service of process. A motor carrier shall file a
11 supplemental application for any change of address or any change of its legal agent for service of
12 process no later than the effective date of the change. The address most recently filed will be presumed
13 conclusively to be the current address.

14 (4) Change in principal officers and titles. A motor carrier that is a corporation shall file a
15 supplemental application for any change in the principal officers and titles no later than the effective
16 date of the change.

17 (5) Conversion of corporate structure. A motor carrier that has successfully completed a
18 corporate conversion involving a change in the name of the corporation shall file a supplemental
19 application for registration and evidence of insurance or financial responsibility reflecting the new
20 company name. The conversion must be approved by the Office of the Secretary of State before the
21 supplemental application is filed.

1 (6) Change in drug-testing consortium status. A motor carrier that changes consortium
2 status shall file a supplemental application that includes the names of the persons operating the
3 consortium.

4 (7) Retaining a revoked or suspended certificate of registration number. A motor carrier
5 may retain a prior certificate of registration number by:

6 (A) filing a supplemental application to reregister instead of filing an original
7 application; and

8 (B) providing adequate evidence that the carrier has satisfactorily resolved the
9 issue that gave rise to the suspension or revocation.

10 (f) Change of ownership. A motor carrier must file an original application for registration when
11 there is a corporate merger or a change in the ownership of a sole proprietorship or of a partnership.

12 (g) Alternative vehicle registration for household goods agents. To avoid multiple registrations of
13 a motor vehicle, a household goods agent's vehicles may be registered under the motor carrier's
14 certificate of registration under this subsection.

15 (1) The carrier must notify the department on a form approved by the director of its
16 intent to register its agent's vehicles under this subsection.

17 (2) When a carrier registers vehicles under this subsection, the carrier's certificate shall
18 include all vehicles registered under its agent's certificates of registration. The carrier must register
19 under its certificate of registration all vehicles operated on its behalf that do not appear on its agent's
20 certificate of registration.

21 (3) The department may send the carrier a copy of any notification sent to the agent
22 concerning circumstances that could lead to denial, suspension, or revocation of the agent's certificate.

(h) Substitute vehicles leased from leasing businesses. A registered motor carrier is not required to comply with the provisions of subsection (e) of this section for a substitute vehicle leased from a business registered under §218.18 of this title (relating to Short-term Lease and Substitute Vehicles). A motor carrier is not required to carry proof of registration as described in subsection (d) of this section if a copy of the lease agreement for the originally leased vehicle is carried in the cab of the temporary replacement vehicle.

(i) A motor carrier with an unexpired certificate of registration that has not been revoked shall update its principal business address, mailing address, and email address in the department's online system within 30 days of a change to the information.

(j) A sole proprietor with an unexpired certificate of registration shall notify the department as specified in subsection (k) of this section, directly or through the sole proprietor's authorized representative, of the sole proprietor's imprisonment for any of the following:

(1) a felony conviction for any of the following:

(A) an offense that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of a motor carrier as defined in §211.25 of this title (relating to Criminal Offense Guidelines; Imprisonment);

(B) an offense listed in Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 42A.054; or

(C) a sexually violent offense, as defined by Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 62.001;

(2) felony community supervision revocation;

(3) revocation of parole; or

(4) revocation of mandatory supervision.

(k) The notice under subsection (j) of this section shall be provided to the department:

1 (1) for an imprisonment that occurs on or after May 1, 2026;

2 (2) within 15 days of the date the sole proprietor is imprisoned;

3 (3) using the email address listed on the department's website for this purpose; and

4 (4) with the following information:

5 (A) the name of the sole proprietor;

6 (B) the sole proprietor's certificate of registration number under Transportation
7 Code, Chapter 643;

8 (C) the date the sole proprietor was imprisoned;

9 (D) the reason the sole proprietor was imprisoned, using one of the reasons
10 listed in subsection (j) of this section;

11 (E) the citation to the statute, administrative rule, or regulation regarding the
12 felony offense for which the sole proprietor was imprisoned if the sole proprietor was imprisoned for a
13 felony conviction that falls under subsection (j)(1) of this section;

14 (F) whether the sole proprietor is a motor carrier of passengers, a for-hire motor
15 carrier of cargo, a household goods carrier, or a motor carrier who transports hazardous materials under
16 Transportation Code, Chapter 643; and

17 (G) the name and phone number of the sole proprietor's authorized
18 representative, if applicable.

19 (I) An applicant under this chapter and a motor carrier with a certificate of registration may
20 submit an application to the department or provide the department with any required information and
21 updates through an authorized representative. Upon request by the department, a representative shall

1 provide the department with written proof of authority to act on behalf of the applicant or motor
2 carrier.

3
4 §218.14. Expiration and Renewal of Motor Vehicle Registration.

5 (a) Expiration and renewal dates.

6 (1) A motor carrier with annual or biennial registration shall be assigned a date for the
7 expiration and renewal of its motor carrier registration according to the last digit of the carrier's
8 certificate of registration number, as outlined in the following chart:

9 [Attached Graphic](#)

10 (2) 90-day certificates of registration are valid for 90 calendar days from the effective
11 date.

12 (3) Seven-day certificates of registration are valid for seven calendar days from the
13 effective date.

14 (b) Registration renewal.

15 (1) At least 30 days before the expiration of registration, the department shall mail or
16 send electronically a renewal notice to each registered motor carrier with annual or biennial
17 registration. The notice shall be sent to the carrier's last known address according to the Motor Carrier
18 Division's records. Failure to receive the notice does not relieve the registrant of the responsibility to
19 renew. A supplement to an application for motor carrier registration renewal must be filed electronically
20 in the department's designated motor carrier registration system and must:

1 (A) supply any new information and documents required under §218.13(e) of
2 this title (relating to Application for Motor Carriers Registration) if the information or documents have
3 not previously been provided to the department; and

4 (B) include a \$10 fee for each vehicle that the carrier operates under an annual
5 certificate of registration and a \$20 fee for each vehicle that the carrier operates under a biennial
6 certificate of registration.

7 (2) Seven-day and 90-day registrations may not be renewed.

8 (3) A motor carrier shall maintain continuous insurance or evidence of financial
9 responsibility in an amount at least equal to the amount prescribed under §218.16 of this title (relating
10 to Insurance Requirements).

11 (4) The insurance cab card issued to a motor carrier is valid for the same period as the
12 motor carrier's certificate of registration.

13 (5) To renew registration after it has expired, a motor carrier must file a supplemental
14 application electronically in the department's designated motor carrier registration system within 180
15 days after the registration expiration and must include the following information, documents, and fees:

16 (A) identify its vehicles on a form prescribed by the director;

17 (B) pay all vehicle fees; and

18 (C) if current proof of insurance or evidence of financial responsibility is not on
19 file with the department, comply with all insurance requirements.

20 (c) Interstate motor carrier operating in intrastate commerce.

(1) An interstate motor carrier registered under §218.17 of this title (relating to Unified Carrier Registration System) is not required to renew a certificate of registration issued under Transportation Code §643.054(a) except when the motor carrier is operating as a

(A) non-charter bus carrier;

(B) household goods carrier; or

(C) recyclable materials or waste carrier.

(2) If a motor carrier that registered under §218.17 does not maintain continuous motor carrier registration required under Transportation Code §643.051, the motor carrier must file a supplemental application to reregister under §218.13 to operate on a public highway in this state.

(3) The motor carrier must notify the department if the motor carrier is registered under UCR. The notification must be filed with the department on a form prescribed by the department. Once the department receives the notification, the department shall convert the motor carrier's certificate of registration to a non-expiring certificate of registration if the motor carrier qualifies for a non-expiring certificate of registration.

(4) If the department issues the motor carrier a non-expiring certificate of registration, the motor carrier shall notify the department if the motor carrier is no longer registered under UCR or if the motor carrier operates as a non-charter bus carrier, household goods carrier, or recyclable materials or waste carrier. The notification shall be filed with the department on a form prescribed by the department.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The department adopts the repeal of §218.11 under Transportation Code §643.003, which authorizes the department to adopt rules to administer Transportation Code, Chapter

1 643; Transportation Code, §643.052, which requires a motor carrier to submit to the department an
2 application on a form prescribed by the department to register under Subchapter B of Transportation
3 Code, Chapter 643, as well as the required components of the application, which include information
4 the department by rule determines is necessary for the safe operation of a motor carrier under
5 Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §643.053, which provides additional
6 requirements for an application filed with the department under Transportation Code, §643.052;
7 Transportation Code, §643.054, which authorizes the department to deny an application for registration
8 under certain circumstances, in addition to authorizing the department to adopt simplified procedures
9 for the registration of motor carriers transporting household goods as agents for carriers required to
10 register under Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §643.056, which requires a
11 motor carrier that is required to register under Subchapter B of Transportation Code, Chapter 643, to
12 supplement the motor carrier's application for registration under certain circumstances; Transportation
13 Code, §643.058, which specifies the requirements for a motor carrier to apply for renewal of registration
14 issued under Subchapter B of Transportation Code, Chapter 643, as well as the authority for the
15 department to deny an application for renewal of registration; Transportation Code, §643.0585, which
16 specifies the requirements for a motor carrier to apply for reregistration after its registration has been
17 revoked, as well as the authority for the department to deny an application for reregistration;
18 Transportation Code, §643.061, which authorizes the department to adopt rules to vary the registration
19 period under Subchapter B of Transportation Code, Chapter 643; ; Transportation Code, §643.064,
20 which provides that a carrier required to register with the department under Subchapter B of
21 Transportation Code, Chapter 643, must maintain an authorized identification number issued to the
22 motor carrier by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, its successor, or another person

1 authorized to issue the number; and Transportation Code §1002.001, which authorizes the board to
2 adopt rules that are necessary and appropriate to implement the powers and the duties of the
3 department.

4 **CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE.** The adopted repeal implements Transportation Code, Chapters 643
5 and 1002.

6

7 Text.

8 §218.11. Motor Carrier Registration.

9